

**CONSTITUTION AND RULES of the
LEICESTERSHIRE and RUTLAND DISTRICT FOLK COMMITTEE**
(affiliated to the English Folk Dance and Song Society)

DEFINITIONS

1. "The Society" shall be The English Folk Dance and Song Society.
2. "The District" shall be the administrative county of Leicestershire and Rutland.
3. "The Electorate Body" shall be:
 - (a) all members and individual affiliates of the Society living or participating in folk activity in the District
 - (b) one representative of any affiliated club meeting in the District but so that no person shall have more than one vote.
4. Any other person participating in folk activity in the District may be invited by the Committee to attend meetings but without voting rights.
5. "The Committee" shall be the Committee elected as below, save that until the first Annual Meeting convened as below, the existing members of District Committee of the Society shall be and have all the powers of such Committee.

OBJECTS

6. The Objects of the Committee shall be:
 - (a) To support, and encourage the support by others of, the Society in spirit and financially.
 - (b) To initiate and/or support and encourage the initiation and/or support by others of all folk activity in the District
 - (c) To be a liaison point for folk activity in the District
 - (d) To do all or any lawful things as may be conducive or incidental to the attainment of these objects and the objects of the Society generally.

AFFILIATION

7. In pursuance of the above objects, the Committee will be affiliated to the Society.

GENERAL MEETINGS

8. Once in every calendar year and so that not more than 15 months shall elapse between meetings, and within ~~two~~* months of the end of the financial year (see below), the Committee shall convene an Annual General Meeting of all members of the Electorate Body to receive the report and accounts of the Committee, to elect Committee members and to transact such other business as shall be deemed appropriate.
9. The Committee may, and if so requested in writing by 20 members of the Electorate Body shall within 30 days, convene an Extra-ordinary Meeting of all members of the Electorate Body and shall specify the purpose of the meeting in the notice convening the same.
10. Twenty-one days notice of such General Meetings shall be given in writing to all members of the Electorate Body at 3 (a) above, and to members at 3 (b) above by notice to the Secretary of such body.
11. The Chairman of such General Meetings shall be appointed by the Committee.
12. Notice of such General Meetings shall be given to the National Council of the Society, who may send a representative to such meeting. Such representative shall be entitled to speak, but not to vote, at such meeting.

13. No business shall be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum of members of the Electorate Body is present. A quorum shall be five persons personally present.

THE COMMITTEE

14. The Committee shall consist of:
 - (a) one representative appointed by each of the affiliated clubs, and
 - (b) not more than six members of the Electorate Body elected using the procedure at Paragraph 19.
15. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than two additional members.
16. The Committee shall appoint from among its own members a Chairman and a Secretary, and may appoint such other officers as it may deem necessary. A Treasurer shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting using the procedure at Paragraph 19.
17. The Committee shall determine from time to time its own proceedings and frequency of meetings and shall have the power to appoint sub-committees.
18. The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of its proceedings, and shall maintain a register of members of the Electorate Body defined in Paragraph 3 (a) above, and of the affiliated bodies in 3 (b) above.
19. To ensure that all of the Electorate Body have an opportunity of electing members of the Committee, the following shall apply:
 - (a) not less than twenty-one days before the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall give notice (as in Paragraph 10 above) of the vacancies on the Committee and request nominations.
 - (b) if the nominations are not greater than the number of vacancies, those nominated shall be deemed elected.
 - (c) if the nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a vote shall be taken at the Annual General Meeting.

ACCOUNTS

20. The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of all financial matters, maintain a bank account in the name of the Committee, and make its annual accounts up to ~~August~~ ~~31st~~ * in each year. The accounts shall be audited by a suitable person not a member of the Committee.

DISSOLUTION

21. In the event that the Committee shall cease to exist, any monies belonging to the Committee as at that date of it so ceasing to exist shall be paid to the Society.

DETERMINATION

22. Any question on the interpretation or definition of these rules shall be determined by the Committee, but such determination may be over-ruled by a subsequent General Meeting.

(Authorised by the Annual General Meeting held on September 22nd, 1994, this document is an amended version of an original Draft produced by the District Committee on July 5th, 1994. The Draft was produced using a "model" supplied by the Society.)

* Amended at AGM 11/09/97